GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:465
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2000
MEDICAL WASTE POSES ECO RISK
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Medical Waste Poses Eco Risk` appearing in the Times of India dated October 13, 2000;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) whether only 20% Delhi Hospitals are doing good segregation but 60% are still not following basic segregation of medical waste;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken/being taken against the defaulting hospitals?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The following was reported in the news-item.

(i) Slight improvement in the waste management practices of the Delhi Hospitals as compared to last year.

(ii) 20% of the incinerators were being run properly and were not producing Dioxins.

(iii) 20% of the hospitals are doing good segregation and 60% of the hospitals were not following basic segregation.

(iv) Hospitals do not have sharp management policy.

(v) Handling of sharp and needles is being done properly by 60% of the hospitals

(vi) Non-availability of centralized facilities to dispose waste.

(vii) Many hospitals which did not/initiate segregation had to dump their waste in the Municipal dumps.

(c) & (d) In the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi i.e. Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Safdarjung Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College & Associated Hospitals, the segregation treatment and disposal of bio-medical waste is carried as per the provision of Bio-Medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1998.The hospitals are equipped with incinerators. Government of NCT of Delhi and NDMC informed that the position of segregation of bio-medical waste in the hospitals under their control is quite satisfactory.

(e) Action against the defaulting hospital is to be taken by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee.